

In re: Thrash, et al.
Appl. No.: 09/878,825
Filed: 06/11/2001
Page 3

REMARKS

Please add new Claims 32 – 35 prior to examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory J. Carlin
Registration No. 45,607

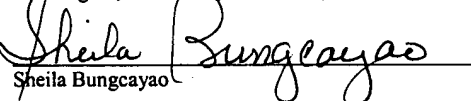
CUSTOMER NO. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number
Date of Deposit: June 20, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Box Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on June 20, 2002.


Sheila Bungcayao

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made:

In The Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

32. (New) A method of manufacturing a resin-impregnated composite, comprising:
encapsulating a dry fiber preform within a fluid-impermeable container;
supplying a resin to the fluid-impermeable container and infusing the dry fiber
preform with the resin;
providing an outlet from the fluid-impermeable container; and
applying an external pressure to an external surface of the fluid-impermeable
container resulting in an internal pressure increase within the fluid-impermeable container
wherein the internal pressure increase is attributable to, and in proportion to, the external
pressure increase, said internal pressure increase urging the resin out of the preform and fluid-
impermeable container and increasing a fiber-volume fraction of the resin-impregnated
composite.
33. (New) A method of Claim 32, wherein applying the external pressure includes
applying an external pressure up to a peak of 100 psi.
34. (New) A method of Claim 32, wherein supplying the resin includes connecting
the fluid-impermeable container to a resin supply and wherein infusing the preform includes
supplying a vacuum to the fluid-impermeable container.
35. (New) A method of Claim 34, wherein the fiber-volume fraction of the composite
is 57% or greater.

In re: Thrash, et al.

Appl. No.: 09/878,825

Filed: 06/11/2001

Page 5